

STAGE NEWS AND THOUGHT.

JAMES PAXTON VOOREHES'S PROJECT OF A NATIONAL THEATRE.

How Andrew Carnegie's Gift of an Endowment Is Pertinent to the Proposed Playhouse in Washington—The Changes That London Wrought in a New York Extravaganza.

Senator Voorhees introduced in Congress a bill preparing the way to a national theatre in Washington, rendered independent of commercial considerations through government endowment, and devoted to the higher development of the dramatic arts. The Senator's son, James Paxton Voorhees, was the first mover in this project, and is still its hopefully energetic promoter. "My bill for a State theatre," he said, yesterday, "I find by a close attention to the progress in this matter, has been fruitful of aid toward final results. We shall have a theatre under national auspices, and that is the great point. The favorable response to the idea on the part of Mr. Carnegie leaves those of us who are ready and sincerely anxious for this movement, and those there are managing it well, to continue to express their views interest in and hopes for the ultimate establishment of a theatre which will practically and perfectly meet the wants of a national playhouse. The accession to the ranks of the promoters of this scheme of such men as Mansfield and Irving is encouraging in the highest degree. Mr. Carnegie properly wishes to wait until he can assure himself of the ability to establish a theatre from cult or class idea; let us say pre-induced, if his meaning is taken literally. Sir Henry Irving says that in such a theatre the legitimate plays other than the special and extraneous should prevail such a system would assuredly tend to return us to nature, and to keep within bounds that pleasing grotesquerie which now holds, with such wide and entertaining sway the successful stage. Nothing is gained, however, by injudicious antagonism.

MAKING PHILBIN PAY FOR IT.

Col. Gardner's Assistants Come High When He Retains Them—Justice Furman's Figures.

Justice Furman of the Supreme Court has awarded to former Assistant District Attorneys John F. McIntyre and Fortis J. Hennessy, retained by District Attorney Philbin to prosecute Dr. Samuel J. Kennedy on his second trial for the murder of Dolly Reynolds, \$5,000 and \$2,500 respectively. The trial lasted about fourteen days. District Attorney Philbin expected to pay McIntyre \$1,500 and Hennessy \$500. No fee was mentioned to Dr. McIntyre but Mr. Philbin expected to pay him also \$1,500. He agreed that Hennessy agrees to assist Dr. McIntyre for \$2,500. Both were in concert with Dr. John F. McIntyre's salary as assistant District Attorney.

The Mayor spent a moment in thought, and then said: "I don't know what I could do about it." He then added: "I have

nothing to do with it, but I will see what I can do."

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